

THE COLUMBIAN PLAYERS  
OF  
SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

PRESENT

*-THE "DROP DEAD" COMEDY-*

# DEARLY DEPARTED

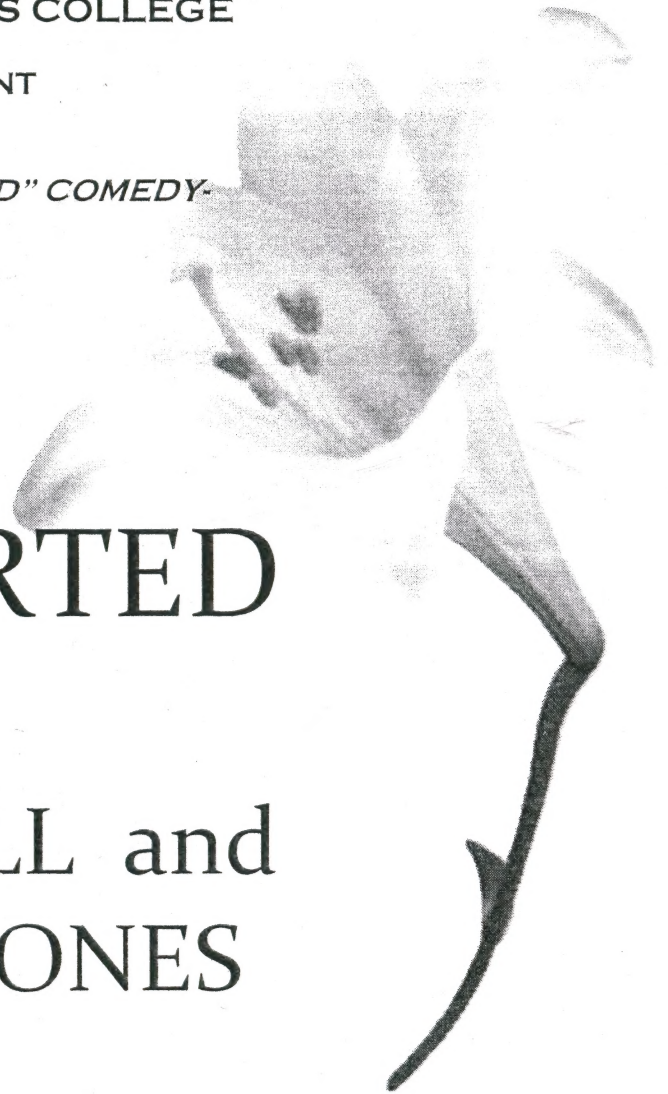
BY

DAVID BOTRELL and  
JESSIE JONES

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THE COLUMBIAN PLAYERS OF SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE  
PRESENT

**DEARLY DEPARTED**

by David Botrell and Jessie Jones

Directed by John Rahe

Stage Managed by Zach Conrad

CAST

Raynell Turpin – Jesse Ruisard

Ray-Bud - Sean Warren

Lucille - Margaret Engelhart

Junior - Harrison Beeson

Suzanne – Alycia Tassone

Marguerite – Meagan Mæes

Royce – Ken Scofield

Delightful/Nadine - Jessica Ruschke

Reverend Hooker/Clyde/Norval – Colby Alexis

Juanita/Veda – Chantel Johnson

Merline – Michael Booth

Setting: In and around the towns of Lula and Timson, somewhere below the Mason-Dixon line.  
The time is the present.

- Act 1: Scene 1 – Raynelle and Bud Turpin's kitchen  
Scene 2 – Royce's apartment and Marguerite's kitchen  
Scene 3 – Ray-Bud and Lucille's kitchen  
Scene 4 – Junior and Lucille's car  
Scene 5 – Raynelle's kitchen  
Scene 6 - Royce's car by the side of the road  
Scene 7 – Ray-Bud and Lucille's living room  
Scene 8 – Ray-Bud's backyard  
Scene 9 – The local radio station

Act 2: Scenes 1 - 6 Depew's Funeral Home  
Scene 7 – Raynelle's kitchen  
Scene 8 – Depew's Funeral Home

There will be one ten minute intermission between acts.  
The Evans Arts and Science Building is a no smoking facility.  
Please do not take any flash pictures during the performance.

#### STAGE CREW

Light Board Operator.....Katelyn Herre  
Sound Board Operator.....Scott Ripberger  
Running Crew.....Amanda Rousseau  
Emily Larson  
Eileen Mills-Groniger  
Jordan Broeker  
Set Building.....Amanda Rousseau  
Zach Conrad  
Matt Harmon  
Jessica Ruschke  
Anthony Shields  
Alycia Tassone  
Steve Greenwood  
Lighting supervision.....Zach Conrad  
Costume supervision.....Olivia Markwalder  
House Manager.....Sabrina Butts

#### DIRECTOR'S NOTE

When you first read about this play, you would have seen the words “drop dead funny” or other phrases which focus on the obvious comical nature of the play. However, there is much more to this story than just the funny eccentricities of the characters. These characters are people you recognize. From the slacker cousin to the high maintenance sister-in-law, we all have these folks in our families. No matter what you might think about them, they are family and they come together during times of need, such as funerals, to help and support each other. As one of the characters says, “It’s a shame that we have to have something like this to bring us all together.” This is a play about family, community, and how in a time of change, we sometimes discover new paths and re-discover what is important to us.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SJC Physical Plant  
SJC Johnson Health and Wellness Center  
Kentucky Fried Chicken – I-65 and 114  
John Plank

#### COMING ATTRACTIONS FROM THE SJC THEATRE

*Urinetown: the Musical*.....April 7,8,9



## MEET THE CAST

**Colby Alexis** (Rev. Hooker, Norval, Clyde) is a freshman from Port Huron, Michigan, majoring in Political Science. Colby is also involved with Student Union Board, Student Senate, and band. Colby hopes the audience enjoys the show, and everyone dies of laughter at "Dearly Departed."

**Harrison Beeson** (Junior), a freshman from Kenosha, Wisconsin, is majoring in Music. Harrison is also involved with choir, vocal jazz ensemble, band, the improv club, and is looking to start a fencing club. He would like to say: "Thanks for coming out to the show! We've put a lot of effort and heart into this production, and we really hope you appreciate it! Sit back and enjoy the hilarity and emotional ride 'Dearly Departed' is! Thanks again!"

**Zach Conrad** (Stage Manager) is a freshman from Carmel, Indiana majoring in Theatre Arts. Zach is also involved in Campus Ministry as Chair of the Prayer and Spirituality Committee, youth minister of a Logansport high school youth group, and is currently participating in a stage management internship with the Rensselaer Carnegie Players. Zach would like to, once again, thank his family back home for all their encouragement and support. He hopes that everyone in the audience is as excited as he is about "Dearly Departed" and hopes that they have an entertaining evening.

**Margaret Engelhart** (Lucille) is a freshman from Mendota Heights, Minnesota, majoring in Music Education. Margaret is also involved with marching band and winterguard. Margaret hopes you enjoy the hilarity of the show. Live Long and Prosper :D

**Chantel Johnson** (Juanita/Veda) is a senior from St. Anne, Illinois, majoring in Elementary Education. Chantel is also involved with Habitat for Humanity, Science Club, Phi Alpha Theta, and the Columbian Players. She says, "Thanks to everyone for coming out to see the show tonight! I hope you have as much fun watching the show as we had preparing for it. I would also like to thank everyone who convinced me to get over my stage fright and try out for the show. Thanks ya'all!"

**Meagan Maes** (Marguerite) is a Mass Communications senior from Culver, Indiana. Meagan is also a camp counselor at Culver Woodcraft Camp during the summer, involved with Habitat for Humanity and SJC's *TV6 News*, a DJ and women's basketball commentator on *93.3 The Joe*, and works as an admissions ambassador in the Admissions Office. Meagan thanks her Mom and Dad for always being there for her and supportive in everything that she does. She would also like to thank her brothers Mark and Mitch for "inspiring her to try out for the play and being a part of it since they are so involved in their drama department at school. Love you all."

**Jessie Ruisard** (Raynell) a sophomore from Valparaiso, Indiana, is majoring in Business Administration. Jessie is also involved with band, Production Under Construction Improvisation Group, and Ministry Outreach. Jessie says thanks for coming and enjoy the show!

**Jessica Ruschke** (Delightful/Nadine) is a Lawrenceburg, Indiana, freshman, majoring in English with a Secondary Education minor. Jessica is also involved with the Columbian Players, the Production Under Construction Improv Group, the Puma Education Association including the SJA and BUG programs, the *Observer*, and Peer Ministry. Jessica would like to say that it's been wonderful working with everyone involved with show, and she hopes everyone enjoys the performance.

**Ken Scofield** (Royce) is a sophomore from Roselawn, Indiana, majoring in Biology with a minor in Theater. Ken is also involved with Production Under Construction, Science Club and Cup of Joe. Ken says: "Working on this play has been an a great experience, and I hope the audience enjoys watching it even more than I've enjoyed being in it. I feel the overall message of coming together as a family is presented just as strongly as the comedy, and strong performances all around will drive that home."

**Alycia Tassone** (Suzanne) is a freshman from DeMotte, Indiana, majoring in Mass Communication and minoring in Theater. Alycia is involved in the theater department and is a member of the publicity team. She is also a member of Columbian Players. Alycia really enjoys being a radio DJ on the campus radio station, *93.3 The Joe*. She was involved in two plays during high school, "Rehearsal for Death" and "Arsenic and Old Lace". She would like to thank everyone for coming out and supporting SJC theater and would also like to thank her parents for supporting her through this experience. "I hope you all laugh as much as we have while rehearsing."

**Sean Warren** (RayBud) is a DeMotte, Indiana, senior, double majoring in Mass Communications and Theatre Arts. Sean is also involved with track and field, is the improv club president, plays percussion in band, enjoys long walks on the beach, and just likes to have a good time. Sean says, "Thanks to God who has gotten me to where I am today, my family which I love dearly and always will (every single one of you), to John Rahe for providing me with the skills I've acquired on stage and in the theatre field, to Bill Massoels and Robb Thiel for all the help that they have given me the last four years, all of my friends on the track team, my tuffguy friends from the x219/574x, Kyle "WEH" Gein, all of the 209 boys, that random person that holds the door open for you at the store, BTFO, the Hays family for being the best people I know and being there for me when I needed it the most, and to my amazing girlfriend Julie.... I love you all! If I didn't mention you it doesn't mean I'm not thinking about you! =]"